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HIW ELECTRIC

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June 14, 2001

Ms. Laurie Duarte
General Services Administration
FAR Secretariat (MVR)
Room 4035
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

RE: FAR Case 2001-014

Dear Ms. Duarte.

I am writing as a citizen and small-business owner who has an interest in the federal government receiving fair value in its contracts for goods and services. I am very pleased to note the important policy initiatives proposed in the Federal Acquisition Regulations April 3, 2001 edition of the Federal Register.

The actions taken in the April 3rd Federal Register will bring to closure the acquisitions policy initiated in FAR Case 1999-010. It is important that it be overturned because it is a redundant policy with both unwise applications and a multitude of unforeseeable consequences. It exposed small businesses to unfair denial of federal contracts based on any violation of a vast array of complicated federal laws in the past three years. This would mean that even unproven allegations or citations from the past that had been resolved could keep a company from winning federal contracts.

Important reforms in acquisition policy are clearly needed to open up opportunities for small business and independent contractors. I hope that GSA and the FAR Secretariat can turn their attention to the important pro competitive provisions required for the future.

Sincerely,



Aric M. Schwartz, M.E.
President, HIW Electric

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